

R E M A R K S

By this Amendment claim 15 has been amended to include the feature of claim 2 (now canceled), claim 5 has been amended to be more specific to the invention, and new claim 16 has been added to alternatively define the invention using the "closed" terminology "consisting of." Entry is requested.

In the outstanding Office Action the examiner has rejected claims 15, 2-5, 7, 9-11 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hauge et al., he has rejected claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hauge et al. in view of Dickey, he has rejected claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hauge et al. in view of Loewy et al., and he has rejected claims 12 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hauge et al. in view of Loewy et al. and Watanabe et al. The examiner states that the Declaration filed September 8, 2009 is insufficient to overcome these rejections (presented previously) because (1) use of the transitioning term "comprising" in the claim 15, which is open-ended, allows the examiner to interpret the claim to include the additional filtration step of Hauge et al., and (2) the experiments conducted are insufficient to support a showing of unobviousness commensurate in scope with the claims.

In response to the examiner's comments, the applicant herewith submits a supplemental executed Declaration under 37 C.F.R. 1.132 wherein additional data of unobvious-ness is provided to support the

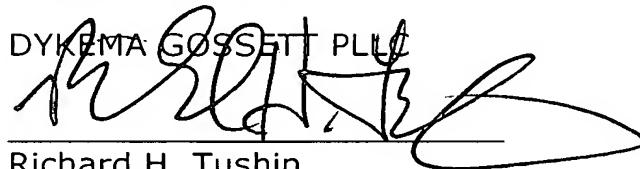
scope of the claims. Note in particular the results of Table 2 and related discussion in the Declaration. Claim 15 has been amended to recite the pH range of about 0.8 to 4.0.

It is believed that the examiner's prior art rejections should now be withdrawn and the application allowed.

Favorable reevaluation is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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